

THE RIO NEWS.

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VOL. XIII.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 15th, 1886

NUMBER 2

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Limited Express: Upward, leaves Rio at 6 a.m.; arriving at Barra at 9:05 a.m.; Entre Rios 12:55 p.m.; Porto Novo 5:30 p.m. Cachoeira 6:00 p.m. Downward, leaves Cachoeira at 6:40 a.m.; Porto Novo 6:30 a.m.; Entre Rios 10:55 a.m. arriving at Barra 2:14 p.m. and at Rio at 5:30 p.m.

Mixed Trains: Leave Rio at 8:30 a.m., and 3 p.m., the first going to Entre Rios and the second to Barra do Piraí. CANTAGALLO R.—Leaves Nil-embury (São João) 7:25 a.m., arriving at Nova Friburgo 11:00 a.m. Connects for trainway from Cantagallo 7:25 and Macuco 2:05 p.m. Return train leaves Macuco 8:15, Condeiro 9:10 and Nova Friburgo 11:00 p.m., arriving at Nil-embury 2:55 p.m. A ferry boat runs between Rio and São Anna, connecting with trains.

CORCOVADO R. R.—Trains leave the Station at Cordeiro Velho, Laranjeiras, at 5:30, 7, 8:35, 10:15, 12:45, a.m. and 1:15, 2:45, 4:15 and 5:45 p.m. on Sundays and holidays; and at 6:30 and 10 a.m. and at 2 and 4:15 p.m. on week-days.

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Dr. Alexandre Calzavara—Surgeon and Physician.—Office, Rua Pinheiro de Melo No. 22. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Residence, Rua de S. Francisco Xavier No. 47.
Dr. W. J. Fairbairn.—Al. D. Fair, Surgeon and Physician. Office: Rua 1ª de Março, No. 49; from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 4 to 6 p.m. Residence: N. 130 Rua de S. Clemente, Botafogo, Med. Director of Hospital de L. F. C. of N. York.

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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 25th of the month.

A. J. LAMOREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily coffee reports from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 15th, 1886.

WHATEVER may be the result, the general elections of to-day will bring a welcome relief. Outside of official and political circles there is probably little interest in the success of either party, for a change of administration brings with it no improvements in policy and administrative methods. Neither party has at present a definite fiscal policy, nor has either one of them a definite plan for settling the industrial questions made prominent by the gradual abolition of slavery. Whether liberal or conservative, the same temporizing measures will be continued with respect to slavery, immigration, transportation, taxes, currency, deficits, and the many other questions which are in so unsettled a state to-day. No one believes that the success of either party will insure their better solution, but at the same time it is generally known that when the elections are over the government will find time to settle many matters now held in suspense and business will once more resume its usual course. An election always unsettles business, and interferes seriously with the industrial pursuits of the people. Certain custom house and police changes are also pending, both of which are to take place "after the elections." For these reasons, it is to be hoped that to-day's voting will be decisive, and that very few contests will be carried over for a second scrutiny.

THE minister of agriculture has recently appointed a commission to visit the province of São Paulo to examine and report upon the localities suitable for colonies. The commission is to examine the colonies already established near the provincial capital, and also extinct colonies in the southern part of the province from which so much was once expected. While the purpose is good and some benefits may result from it, we can not help thinking that as a half measure it will prove a very unnecessary expenditure of money. What is first needed is an intelligible, consistent plan for the settlement of immigrants—a plan, or system, which shall not only provide for lots upon which to settle, but which shall include a general system of land surveys, a free choice of surveyed lands to every immigrant, the immediate and easy registry of land titles, and provisions for local government which will put settlers more upon their own resources and less upon the bureaucracy of the imperial capital. This locating colonies at hap-

hazard is not only bad policy now, but it must lead to great embarrassment in the future. As the people of São Paulo are thoroughly roused on this question, they will readily and intelligently co-operate with the government in this matter. Too much time has already been wasted in putting the land and immigration laws of the empire on a sound and liberal basis; now that the ministry of agriculture and the presidency of São Paulo are in the hands of two such progressive men as Antonio Prado and João Alfredo, the reforms necessary ought not to be delayed a moment longer.

OUR colleague of the *Sud-American* expresses surprise over the absolute silence maintained by the Brazilian press in regard to the *La France* affair at Bahia. Most unhappily the Brazilian press has not yet reached that stage of advancement where it seeks to lead and form public opinion, and where it can afford to be just at the expense of patriotism. It is very generally felt that this firing upon a foreign mail steamer and killing a foreign passenger is a very serious affair, and no one therefore cares to speak out regarding it. Now that the captain's statement has been received, the utter wantonness of the deed becomes all the more apparent. The steamer was arriving from a domestic port, against which there are no restrictions whatever. The captain was anxious to reach a certain anchorage from which he could get a favorable departure, because of the heavy sea, and his attentions were all directed to that end. He saw the Brazilian gunboat and heard her blank shots, but as she had no quarantine flag or signals flying he concluded that it was only target practice. His vessel was then struck by a ball from Fort Gambôa and one of his passengers was killed in his berth. We have already expressed our opinion of the act, even were the captain guilty of a wilful neglect of duty, but now that it appears to have been as much the fault of the *Travipe* as of the *La France*, the cold-blooded brutality of the act can not have one particle of justification. We do not hold the Gambôa officer wholly to blame, for he probably did no more than to execute the orders given him. The deed is simply part and parcel of a barbarous system which ought to have been stamped out long ago—a system which invests nations and officials with the right to take life for petty acts of disobedience. It is so sacred a thing that the Emperor can not permit the execution of a murderer, then certainly it is sacred enough not to be risked by the firing on innocent travellers simply because a steamer does not stop as quickly as a petty officer thinks necessary. This outrage at Bahia is one which should have been denounced by every newspaper in Brazil, and had that been done we are inclined to think that the Brazilian side of the case would have stood better than it now does.

THE water supply of this city is a question which ought to receive the immediate and serious attention of the government, for upon it depends the health and comfort of its population. Thus far this season the city has been exceptionally healthy, a circumstance which speaks well for its improved sanitary condition. All that is now required is to keep the city in a state of thorough cleanliness and to provide water for all the requirements of personal cleanliness. This, however, the authorities are not doing as effectively as they should, for the supply is not only defective, but it is badly and unevenly distributed. In some localities there is always an over-abundance of water, in others a limited supply, and in others absolutely none at all. The fault

is not that of an insufficient supply at the water works, for the quantity daily received is very rarely reported less than sixty million litres. Deducting the many private supplies from streams and springs, the population dependent upon the general supply will probably not exceed 320,000, from which it is seen that the lowest daily aggregate gives 187 1/2 litres for every man, woman and child in the city. This is equivalent to 48 3/4 gallons per capita, or a third more than the average annual supply of London. If now we take an average of 80,000,000 litres (it frequently exceeds 100,000,000 litres after rains) for the season, we have a per capita supply of 250 litres, or 65 gallons, which is twice the per capita average of London (1880). It will be seen therefore that the trouble is not because of an insufficient quantity furnished the city, but because of waste and defective distribution. When the new water works went into operation hundreds of houses were permitted to keep the old low pressure gauges (*pegnas*), notwithstanding the instructions to substitute smaller ones. This and the further error of preserving the same gauge at all levels, are prime sources of the trouble, because the quantity supplied to such favored individuals and on the lowest levels is many times more than their proportion, and is unavoidably given at the cost of less advantageous localities. Then, too, there are many places in the city where no economy whatever is practiced in the use of water, and the consequence is that the waste is something incredible. If there can be no other method devised to check this waste, then water metres will become a necessity. Probably the construction of large water boxes for a fixed daily supply in all *cortijos* and other places where the waste is greatest, would prevent some of it, but even this would give little relief without a thorough change in the system of gauges. We see no reason why a wealthy man should not have a double supply if he is willing to pay for it, but there is a very decided objection to his getting such a supply by paying a bribe of \$5000 or 10\$000 to the fiscal charged with the fixing of his gauge. These bribes have been a cause of much of the suffering which has been experienced in this city during the past month, and in the interests of humanity and fair play it is time that a change should be made. As is too often the case, incapacity and corruption is at the bottom of the trouble. If the minister wants proofs of this, he can very easily find them.

THE PAST YEAR.

(Continued from our last)

The relations between the financial state of a country and its commercial life are so intimate that, as a rule, one may always be accepted as an exponent of the other. In Brazil this relationship is exceptionally intimate, and for the reason that commerce is the one great source of revenue. There are no taxes on land, no taxes on incomes beyond a percentage levied on the salaries of public officials, and but light excise taxes. In other countries the revenue derived from the manufacture and sale of liquors and tobacco is a large one; here it is comparatively light. Three-fourths of the imperial revenue comes direct from customs taxes, and a considerable sum besides comes from the stamp taxes on commercial documents and the direct license and legalizing taxes on business establishments. When, therefore, the condition of the Treasury becomes critical through insufficient revenue, it may be considered certain that business is showing a corresponding depression.

The past year has been, in general terms, an unbroken continuation of the depression which has been weighing upon business for

the last three or four years. Imports continued at about the same aggregate of the preceding year, though the customs receipts for the year show a slight falling off. We stated some two or three years ago that this would be the result, the increasing duties and decreasing exchange tending to limit imports to the current requirements of consumption. The rule now is to carry the lightest stocks possible, and to import on orders rather than on firm's account. In this the character of the import trade has changed very considerably during the last four or five years. Another result of this state of depression is the marked reluctance of capital to engage in commercial pursuits. Although there is no scarcity of money in the country available for new commercial enterprises, a very small percentage of it is now used for that purpose; on the contrary, the tendency is to invest it in government stocks or in securities of a moderately safe character. Such a state of affairs is certainly deplorable, for in a new country the activity of capital is an indication of life and growth. And more than this, if the residents of a country show themselves unwilling to risk their capital in their own legitimate enterprises, preferring to invest it in certain safely guaranteed securities where it contributes little to the development of trade and industry, then assuredly they can not expect foreign capitalists to furnish money for these except on very onerous conditions.

The importations for the last month of the year show a considerable increase, probably because of the fear that duties would be raised at the opening of the new year. The customs returns for the last quarter have not yet been published, consequently it is impossible to give the aggregates for the year. The duties received, however, show a decrease, while the duties on exports show a considerable increase. The average price of coffee was somewhat under that of the preceding year, but the quantity exported was considerably above. The total official valuation of the year's exports, according to the *Pais*, is 103,356,517\$911, or an increase over the preceding year of 3,384,391\$715, nearly all of which came from coffee. The customs receipts at this port for the last and preceding years were as follows:

	1885	1884
From imports...	33,130,289\$205	33,376,357\$919
From exports...	7,198,375 950	9,238,679 429
Total, customs...	40,328,665\$155	42,615,037\$348
Internal revenue	99,269,970 821	9,519,706 773

The total export of coffee for the year was 3,975,798 bags, against 3,753,625 bags in 1884, of which two-thirds were exported to the United States. The coffee trade, it is considered, was not entirely satisfactory during the past year. As, however, our trade has become very much modified through the establishment of direct representatives of consumers in our market, it is extremely difficult to form an opinion as to the result of business. One would think it impossible for important firms to ship, as they do, were the business an unprofitable one; yet quotations from consuming markets, as a rule, are considerably under our current quotations.

The year has shown considerable activity in shares, debentures, etc., which are generally higher than at this time last year. To tabulate a part of those which are dealt in most freely on this market, we have the following:

	1886	1885
Gov't 6% apolices.....	1,075\$000	1,053\$000
Nat. Gold Loan, 6%, 1868.	1,402 000	1,315 000
do do 4 1/2 %, 1879.	1,299 000	1,186 000
Bank of Brazil shares....	258 000	256 000
Sorocabana R.R. shares....	63 000	66 000
do debentures £50.	490 000	450 000
do do 100\$ 6 1/2 %	64 000	66 000
Leopoldina R.R. shares...	136 000	140 000
do debentures £50.	550 000	496 000
do do 200\$ 175 000	175 000	155 000
S. Christoval Tramway....	310 000	295 000
Jardim Botânico do	148 500	130 000
Carris Urlinos do	274 000	234 000
Villa Isabel do	228 000	238 000
Brazilera de Navegação...	300 000	295 000
Nacional de Navegação....	230 000	232 000

The advance in such securities as are payable in gold may be ascribed to the lower rates of exchange ruling during the year, but we are inclined to believe that a difficulty in employing money in commerce has had something to do with the higher prices of shares and securities considered moderately safe. We have had several loans floated by companies, the most important of which was the Cantareira and Esqotos of S. Paulo to the amount of a nominal value of £200,000, but these debentures have shown some weakness, and issued at 500\$ per £50, have been sold at 470\$. Dividends so far declared are considered better than was to be expected. Whether the banks are justified in distributing such amounts as they do, pending a solution of the floating debt of the Treasury, interests very closely their respective shareholders.

The exchange market for the year has been a steadily declining one, the rates ruling a little over 9 per cent. on par lower at the close of the year, and the aggregate amounts passed being considerably less than in the preceding year. The January rates were 193½—195½d. on London, which were not again recovered during the year. At the present moment we see no sign whatever of a recovery beyond the slight fluctuations which spring from the varying needs of commerce. The new issue of paper currency during the year proved a severe blow to the credit of the state, from which it is not likely to recover until a retrograde policy is adopted and pursued for some time.

COFFEE TRADE SURVECTION OF THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Replies to the questions of the Royal Commission on Depreciation of Trade

QUESTION 3.—Of the total quantity of coffee sold in one year, from 1/5 to 1/4 is retained for home consumption, the remainder is exported to almost every country in Europe, mostly in Germany. The figures have been:

For	Exported.	Retained for home consumption.
	lbs.	lbs.
1884	107,723,000	33,016,000
1883	109,089,000	32,448,000
1882	111,611,000	31,562,000

Average for 10 years.

1872 to 1881	132,000,000	32,700,000
And from 1862 to 1872	104,600,000	31,300,000

QUESTION 6.—The home trade in coffee has been, undoubtedly, shrinking.

QUESTION 7.—The shrinking which has lasted for a great number of years, really began in 1853, became worse in 1863, and continues much the same in this day.

QUESTION 10.—The diminished consumption is to a great extent to be traced to the legislation of 1853 and 1863 on the subject of mixtures, the Treasury having, in 1853, allowed the sale of mixed coffee and chocolate of labelled "mixture," and in 1863 permitted the sale of mixed coffee and chocolate without any labelling. The result was that consumption fell from an average of 1 lb. 6 ozs. per head of population in 1854, to 1 lb. 2 ozs. in 1863, and to about 15 ozs. per head in 1880. This shows, on the population of the last census of 1881, a diminished consumption of coffee of over 14,000,000 lbs. annually.

QUESTION 13.—The home consumption of coffee could be improved by legislation. The Customs and Inland Revenue Bill of 1882 allows the preparation and sale of any vegetable substance made in imitation of, or for use as coffee or chocolate on payment of an excise duty (stamp), giving thus almost unlimited scope for the adulteration of coffee; either coffee might not be allowed to be sold mixed with other ingredients in the same package, or, if the sale of a mixture is permitted the proportions and names of the ingredients contained in it should be stated on the package.

QUESTION 14.—(c.) The increase of direct steam communication between several of the producing countries and Continental ports has diverted to foreign ports direct some of the supplies which used to come to this country to be re-exported afterwards.

QUESTION 14.—(d.) The fall in prices during the last few years would tend to stimulate consumption in this country and elsewhere.

QUESTION 14.—(h.) Foreign competition is, no doubt, stimulated by the lower charges ruling in such markets as Hamburg, Havre, Antwerp, &c., as compared with the charges of the docks and

wharves in London; this tends to restrict the export from this country, consumers abroad finding, in these times of keen competition, that they can buy the same quality of coffee cheaper in Hamburg, Havre, or Antwerp, than in London.

QUESTION 14.—(k.) The differential duties and bounties in France and Spain in favour of importation direct from producing countries as against importation from this country, have almost entirely stopped the export trade in coffee from England to those countries, except for some particular kinds of coffee which French buyers can only find in this market.

QUESTION 14.—(l.) The duty on coffee yields a very small net revenue, and its abolition, with the removal of the restrictions which it entails would be a very great boon to the trade.

Signed on behalf of the
Coffee and Cocoa Trade Section,

H. PASTEUR,
Chairman.

The Chamber of Commerce Journal, Dec. 5th.

THE "LA FRANCE" AFFAIR.

According to the statement of the captain of the *La France*, which we take from the *Bahia Diario de Noticias*, of the 30th ult., that packet arrived off the port of Bahia about two o'clock on the morning of December 30th, and there awaited daylight before attempting to enter. At 5.30 he passed the Santo Antonio light and directed his course for a favourable anchorage for taking his departure. The route chosen was that marked by the small boys to the west of Fort S. Marcello. He saw the gunboat *Traripe* anchored a little above the bar, but she had neither quarantine flag nor signals hoisted. After passing the gunboat he heard a gun, but did not at first understand its purpose. Seeing a boat at some distance from the gunboat with some kind of a signal, he concluded that she was engaged at target practice. In rounding the boys before mentioned the steamer was struck by a ball, upon which he immediately stopped. Only then did he see the *Traripe's* small boat with a yellow flag. Confering with the officer in command, he was directed twice by him to go to his anchorage, if he came from Rio de Janeiro. After informing this officer that the steamer had been struck and one passenger killed, he proceeded to his anchorage.

The police investigation of the affair was opened only on the 4th inst., or five days after the steamer had left port on her voyage home. In the meantime the local press preserved absolute silence on the matter.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The December receipts of the Bahia postoffice amounted to 5,651\$538.

—The November receipts of the Amazonas post-office (province) amounted to 5,339\$05.

—Complaints come from Pernambuco of official interference in the recent provincial elections.

—The December receipts of the *mea de renda* at Victoria, Espírito Santo, amounted to 15,425\$032.

—The German bkn. *J. M. Finck* cleared at Victoria, Espírito Santo, for New York on the 31st ult. with 4,000 bags of coffee.

—Not hearing anything further of the *Correio Paulistano*, we are compelled to believe that it has suspended. *Requiescat in pace.*

—The December receipts of the Victoria, Espírito Santo, custom house amounted to 24,021\$431, against 9,195\$453 in the same month of last year.

—The rubber exports from the province of Amazonas during the eleven months January to November, amounted to 3,486,707½ kilos, valued at 7,608,959\$300.

—The December receipts of the Bahia custom house were: general 748,482\$544, provincial 71,204\$896; *recebido*: general 45,151\$529, provincial 104,796\$499.

—The internal revenue receipts at Bahia during the half year ending December 31st last were 519,422\$305, or an increase of 72,667\$088 over the receipts of the same period of 1884.

—The Capivary central usine, São Paulo, crushed 13,144,566 kilos. of sugar cane during the last season, 126 days, from which were manufactured 723,750 kilos of sugar of first quality.

—The export duties received by the province of Rio de Janeiro at Niterói during the last year amounted to 2,333,372\$900, being 2,279,860\$362 from coffee and 53,512\$544 from sugar.

—The people of São Paulo are complaining sharply of the telephone service there. As in other places, the central station employees are inattentive, careless and, at times, impertinent. Prompt and careful attention to the calls of subscribers is one of the last things thought of.

—It is announced that the Jesuits are about to open a school at Nova Friburgo.

—The December receipts of the Rio Grande custom house were 177,681\$814.

—Campos exported 8,272 bags of sugar by way of S. João da Barra in November.

—According to the *Diário de Alagoas*, the province of Alagoas is flooded with counterfeit 10\$ notes.

—Yellow fever is reported from the towns of S. Thomé de Paípe and Curralinho, province of Bahia.

—The sanitary state of the districts along the Negro and Juruá rivers, province of Amazonas, is reported very bad.

—The hoisting of the port of Icapara, S. Paulo, is to cost 8,000\$. Let us hope the expenditure will prove remunerative.

—The port of Santos was visited by 70 vessels in December, of which 41 were steamers. The number from foreign ports was 44.

—The São Paulo provincial government is considering a measure for the establishment of a meteorological observatory in that capital. The site preferred is the lower in the Jardim Publico.

—All the reports from the interior unite in describing the heat of the last two weeks of December as something almost beyond precedent. Considerable injury was done to the plantations.

—A planter named José Bazilio de Freitas, of Santo Antonio de Padua, Rio de Janeiro, was killed by one of his slaves on the 3rd inst. The infuriated slave was himself shot and killed by an overseer.

—The December receipts of the São Paulo post-office amounted to 9,474\$460 for the capital and 23,023\$280 for the rest of the province, against 8,097\$760 and 21,452\$500 in the same month of last year.

—The municipal council of São Paulo has announced that the city taxes for the present half year must be paid in before to-day, the 15th, after which all delinquents will be subject to a fine of 20\$. There must be a scarcity of money in the São Paulo municipal treasury.

—The *Diário de Santos* says that Luciano Teixeira Nogueira, a Monte-Mór planter, S. Paulo, has liberated all his slaves over 65 years of age. They have all resolved to continue at work on his plantation. A similar event has also transpired on the plantation of Dr. Martinho Prado.

—The public revenue of the province of Espírito Santo for the current fiscal year is estimated at 420,000\$, and the expenditures are fixed at the same figure. The appropriation for administration is 113,720\$, public instruction 90,000\$, police 62,483\$, public works 37,167\$, subsidies 11,500\$ and pensions, etc., 32,000\$.

—The solicitor of the São Paulo provincial treasury entered into a contract with Fernando Turchi 12th December, 1884, for the introduction of immigrants into that province, agreeing to pay a subsidy of 10\$ a family for the same. It is now discovered that the contract is a violation of existing laws and regulations, and it is therefore rescinded. The province of São Paulo is becoming a great party not to make a contract with.

—Espírito Santo imposes an export tax of 17 reis per kilo on coffee, 20 reis on sugar, 20 reis on pork, 20 reis on salt fish, 100 reis on tobacco, 10 reis per litre on tapica, 4 reis on Indian corn, 8 reis on rice and beans, and 10 reis per litre on rum. All unspecified products will pay 7% on their official value. Among the peculiar license taxes imposed is one of 5\$000 on every door kept open for the sale of any product not otherwise specifically taxed, and 5\$000 on every pupil matriculated in the secondary schools or appearing for public examination.

—A conflict has arisen in Rio Grande do Sul between the imperial government and the people over the suspension of the Pelotas veterinary school and the dismissal of Dr. Rebourgeon. An auction of the property was ordered, but the president of the province telegraphed on the 28th ult. that the people had interfered and prevented the sale, it having been determined that the municipality should take over the property and carry on the school on its own account. The minister of agriculture, in reply, ordered the disposal of all animals belonging to the school by private sale.

—The following from a Campos paper needs no comment, for it is just what we expected from this *Amante Saravá-Coteigipe* law:

"Great is the number of black men and women of advanced age who are going through our streets, half naked, hungry and ill.

"What a sad and unhappy condition!"

"After living a whole life surcharged with martyrdom, in the last quarter of their existence they acquire freedom, but with the sky for shelter, the inclemencies of the climate for a covering, and hunger and thirst for nourishment."

—The water supply of S. José do Rio Preto, Rio de Janeiro, which cost the municipality no small sum, has become useless. Why?

—A new gun has been invented at Bahia which is said to be simple in construction and is capable of firing 16 shots a minute. The name of the inventor is Chlucha.

—The president of the province of Rio Grande do Sul has authorized the municipal chamber of Porto Alegre to raise 200,000\$ at 6 per cent. and that of Rio Grande to raise 20,000\$ at 8 per cent.

—The thieves are now busy trying to effect robberies at the Campinas exposition. Two attempts had been made up to the 3rd inst., but were both defeated by the approach of employes sleeping in the building.

—Capt. Grant of the Dr. schr. *Eustwood*, which arrived at Rio Grande do Sul on the 4th, made a declaration that James Soberton, the former captain, committed suicide at sea. The schooner was from New York.

—The December receipts of sugar at Pernambuco were 276,241 bags, or 71,792 bags less than in the same month of last year. The receipts of cotton were 24,318 sacks, or 5,340 less than December of last year.

—O Paiz says the Visconde de Pelotas, a senator of the Empire and a distinguished military officer, advised the liberal voters of Passa Fundo, Rio Grande do Sul, to repel by force any pressure upon them, after using all prudent means.

—Serious disorders are reported from Barra da Corda, province of Maranhão, where a force of 300 armed men, at the call of the chief of police, hold the town. The inhabitants have in great part left their houses, and business is wholly suspended. Help has been asked from the provincial authorities.

—According to the *Correio de Santos* a new light-house of the first class has been ordered for the island of Lage de Santos, about eight leagues from Santos. The same journal is informed also that the government has resolved to erect a lighthouse on the island of S. Sebastião, where so many disasters have occurred.

—The *Correio de Santos* recently published two portraits of D. Pedro II and D. Fernando, which gave rise to a report that his new editor, Sr. Julio Ribeiro, is a monarchist. That illustrious rhetorician, however, meets the charge heroically, and overthrows it with a Latin quotation. The pictures themselves ought to have disproved the charge.

—The December receipts of the Pernambuco custom house were 796,538\$687, of the *recebido* 53,663\$011 and of the *unidade* 269,669\$350. For the calendar year the receipts were:

Custom house	8,165,226\$236
Recebido	719,058 150
Consulário	1,735,440 886

—According to our São Paulo exchanges, a *Brotas* planter, named Col. José Luiz Borges, a short time since organized a regular hunt for some Austrian colonists who had run away from his plantation. One old man of 60 years and some children were captured. If this is not slavery in its worst form, then we should like to know what it is.

—The latest accession to the list of intending visitors to the Campos do Jordão, province of São Paulo, is the King of Abyssinia. If King Theobald, Prince Old, the Sultan of Turkey, the Shah of Persia, and a few other dignitaries could be secured, perhaps Timon, of the *Journal*, might be induced to go up and write a guide-book of the place in anticipation of their coming.

—It was generally understood that Dr. Barboza Rodrigues had civilized the Cricanã Indians, but the *Diário de Notícias* of the 12th says that five persons are supposed to have been assassinated by these gentle savages in Amazonas. As they (the murdered party) left the municipality of Tauapeçassá and were bound to the river Jaupary, it is possible that they were unable to explain to the Indians their place of departure and that to which they were bound; hence the calamity.

—The São Paulo *Diário Popular* of the 9th inst. relates that on the evening of the preceding day two ladies drove down to the bridge over the Tietê, where, when half way across, one of them drew a mysterious package from under her cloak and, after satisfying herself that she was not observed, threw it into the river. They then went away. They had been observed, however, and the occurrence was reported to a certain gentleman, who at once proceeded to investigate the matter. Canoes were sent to the place and the river was dredged until the package was found. This was taken to a neighboring house where, in the presence of excited witnesses, it was opened. The contents were two little images, one of S. Antonio, the patron saint of would-be brides, and the other of the Infant Jesus. The inquisitive dredgers had solved the mystery.

—Mail advices from Crat, Ceará, report abundant rains since November 19th, with which planning has been largely advanced.

—The republicans of the Rio de Janeiro 4th electoral district are supporting Councillor Saldanha Marinho for the next Chamber.

—In the municipality of Amparo, S. Paulo, the water-melon crop has been very large this year. An opening is hereby offered to some of our superfluous doctors.

—The village of Nova Friburgo suffered a serious inundation on the 8th inst., owing to the heavy rains of that and the preceding day. The water invaded the houses in a large part of the town and drove their occupants out.

—A man residing near Casa Branca, S. Paulo, has recently become insane. His insanity takes the form of an ardent desire to substitute the republic for the empire in Brazil. Can Messrs. Bocayava, José do Patrocínio and Ubaldo do Amaral have become insane?

—A planter living near Casa Branca, S. Paulo, was so affected by the reported slave revolt that he became insane. The minister of agriculture should be called to answer for this; or, if the minister be guiltless, then that party who had 100, or more, soldiers sent to the seat of war.

—The *Provincia de S. Paulo* completed its 11th year on the 4th inst., and has received the congratulations of a wide circle of friends in honor of that event. The *Provincia* is one of the best and most influential of our exchanges, is republican in its sympathies, and fully deserves all the credit it has received. Our colleague has our heartiest congratulations.

—A slave was recently condemned to 14 years imprisonment at Diamantina, Minas Geraes, for the assassination of another slave, but this penalty was afterwards changed to 200 lashes by the judge. The sentence was executed on the 8th inst., and most barbarously. The master saves his slave, perhaps, but the place suffers a moral loss from which it will be a long time recovering.

—The new editor of the *Correio de Santos*, Sr. Julio Ribeiro, has started out well. On the 9th, he draws a picture of the filthy condition of Santos which makes one shudder, the remedies for which are the long-delayed harbor improvements, the razing of a part of Montserrat hill, and a better drainage of the city. The latter should be attended to at once. Like all good Santenses, however, he can not help saying something against the English railway company, who, it would seem, is insulting the city by maintaining a wharf of its own.

RAILROAD NOTES

—Traffic on the Cantagallo railway has been interrupted since the 7th. Land-slips in the *serra* are the cause.

—On the 6th inst. work on the Itapemirim, Espírito Santo, railway was commenced. The president of the province was present.

—The passenger receipts of the Carris Urbanos de Niterói for November and December last were 41,994\$500, against 39,970\$600 for the same months of 1884, or an increase of 2,023\$900.

—It is reported that the government has surrendered its right to the reversion of the Leopoldina railway property at the end of its privilege, in order not to defeat the Minas provincial guarantee which was granted on similar conditions.

—The São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro railway company has instructed its station agents not to receive paper currency when a piece of the note is lacking. The reason is that the Banco do Brazil declines to receive such notes.

—The November receipts of the Paulista railway amounted to 283,753\$900 and the expenditures to 88,888\$780, leaving a net balance of 194,865\$120. This increases the total receipts since July 1st to 892,955\$410 and the expenditures to 361,009\$900.

—The Campos and Carangola railway protested for losses and damages against the Itapemirim railway concession but the minister of agriculture replies that under the provincial concession the rights of the Campos and Carangola company are not affected, and if this line considers it is injured, let it use the usual administrative and judicial means for redress.

—A new locomotive that promises good results in economy is undergoing trial on the Pennsylvania railroad. It is known as the Coveny engine, named after the inventor, a Chicago man. The novelty is in the boiler, which has a return flue, thus doubling the length of the tube, and considerably more than doubling the time of the retention of the heated gases within the boiler. Mr. Coveny says that the engine can be run at a saving of at least fifteen per cent. under other engines of its kind, and is cleaner than any other bituminous coal-engine can possibly be. —*Exchange*.

LOCAL NOTES

—By decree No. 9,543, dated 31st ulto., the concession of a guarantee of interest to a sugar factory at S. Fidelis, Rio de Janeiro, was declared lapsel.

—A man who traded in lottery tickets, recently died at Casimira aged 65 years. Moral: had he traded in anything else, he might have lived to 70.

—We beg to acknowledge receipt of the polite invitation of the committee to be present at the religious services in remembrance of D. Fernando, late king of Portugal.

—The minister of empire, under date of the 7th, informed the municipal authorities that the idea of six gigantic lotteries for the purpose of freeing the slaves in this municipality, could not be approved.

—While the elections allow him time, the minister of the empire is using his leisure to get up a new *regulamento* for school examinations. His son has just been elected a provincial deputy for Rio de Janeiro.

—By decree No. 9,540 dated 26th December last, the government has renewed for 5 years the contract with the Amazon Steam Navigation Company. The subsidy is reduced to per cent. The contract was formally signed on the 13th inst.

—Barão de Jacuany, a distinguished naval officer, has applied for, and received, permission to reside in S. Paulo. The Baron is a strong liberal and emancipationist, a friend of Joaquim Nabuco, and his withdrawal from the navy may well cause comments.

—The care and attention shown by the various ministers for the electoral rights of employés in their various departments is most creditable, but in sarors just a little of the old demand, "your vote, or out you go!"

—We see the minister of agriculture has acknowledged the receipt from Dr. Salvador de Mendonça of various New Orleans news papers and some extracts from the *Journal do Commercio* regarding direct trade with New Orleans. The minister should have received our paper also.

—A man was attacked and physically injured by a well-known *capanga* on the Glória hill. The rough then assaulted the local authority and finally made his escape. We are indebted to the *Journal do Commercio* of the 9th for this item, and can only add that it was uncommonly hard on the local authority. He should have apologized.

—Can it be a joke? *O Paiz* of the 9th hears that the Révy commission is to be re-organized and that the engineer is to return "to continue those labors which, with so much advantage to the State and honor for his administration, he commenced last year at Quixadá." Aaron, you were not a good prophet.

—A doctor here has patented an invention to protect public and private property against the assaults of evil-doers (*malfidantes*), but the *Diário Official* will not publish the particulars on tick. This seems to us a crying shame, for such an invention should become the property of the nation. Inadmissible benefits might result from it.

—A story of a man, unlucky in his matrimonial experiences, who abandons his wife to go off with his mother-in-law, is called most interesting by a daily colleague. When it is asked that the wife had already taken up with a minister, who had been called upon to drop her by the Emperor, we have a hint that staggers the most veteran novel reader.

—There is a curious practice in use here which hardly seems to us to be legal. One of our tram companies levies a tax of some 50\$ per annum on each of the porters who desires to run his hand-truck over the rails. The trucks are regularly numbered, quite as carefully as by the municipal authorities. We can not recall any such practice elsewhere.

—In December last 2,167 immigrants arrived at the Ilha das Flores and 2,139 left; on the 31st 34 remained on the island. Of the arrivals 1,511 were males and 656 females; 1,802 were Italians, 201 Portuguese, 75 Austrians, 33 Spaniards, 29 Germans, etc. Of the departures 914 were for Rio Grande do Sul, 854 for S. Paulo, etc. The arrivals of immigrants at the island for the year numbered 10,579.

—Two months ago the police had notice that counterfeit internal revenue stamps were in process of manufacture and on the 11th they captured Mr. Alexandre Speltz, the manufacturer. As stamps are not current funds, and the victim claims to have been executing an order, it would be just as well for the Treasury to look into the balance in the hands of the employé who has charge of the stamps there. The *Journal* intimates the same high personage is mixed up in the matter, but the name is carefully concealed.

—The total number of immigrants arriving at this port during the past year was 10,579.

—To-day (15th) the elections for August and Most Worthy Representatives of the Nation are to come off.

—The D. Pedro II college seems to have turned out only two B. A.'s. this season. How much did they cost per head?

—A new "polytechnic" review is about to be published in this city under the title of *O Seculo*. The list of contributors is principally composed of literary men and poets.

—According to the *Provincia de S. Paulo* the government has ordered the return of the military force sent to São Paulo for the repression of the threatened slave risings.

—Four of the Polytechnic professors being out of the city on a gold mine exploration without permission from the government, the minister of empire has thought it best to ask the director about it.

—It would seem that the will of the late D. Fernando has caused a very disagreeable impression among our Portuguese friends because of the gifts to his morgantic wife, Countess of Eula, a daughter of one of the sovereign families of Boston.

—We are indebted to the American Bank Note Company of New York for copies of their well known and artistic calendars for the current year. The convenience of the arrangement and the artistic character of the work make these calendars the most desirable ones in use.

—The *Gazeta de Noticias* of the 25th ulto. thinks that the government is mortgaging the future of the country in letting out the guano islands. As this future is more than mortgaged by railway concessions, etc., the odds as to the guano islands are hardly worth estimating.

—The *Gazeta de Noticias* of the 29th says that the chief of police has received orders to shave the heads of all more suspected slaves. We do not mean that the chief personally shaved heads, but his under-stoppers did under his orders, and it is just as well that obligatory hair-cutting should cease.

—Can it be a joke? *O Paiz* of the 9th hears that the Révy commission is to be re-organized and that the engineer is to return "to continue those labors which, with so much advantage to the State and honor for his administration, he commenced last year at Quixadá." Aaron, you were not a good prophet.

—Sant'Anna Nery has just published another book in Paris on the Amazon valley. The exposé of plagiarism by a Portuguese author in connection with his last book ought to have silenced this indefatigable plagiarist for a time. However, the 4,000\$ paid him by the province of Amazonas must be earned in some way, and writing books of this character is probably the only method left for him.

—Uruguay is steadily advancing. She has created eight new generals, and has promoted all the officers in active service, thus adding \$500,000 per annum to the army expenses. To meet this necessary expense, all the foreign legations, except those in France, Brazil and Italy, are to be suppressed. So says a Platine contemporary. This will be sad news for the late circum-continental commission.

—The general elections for the Chamber of Deputies are take place to-day throughout the whole empire. It is not anticipated that the day will pass without considerable disorder, as very bitter feelings have been aroused by the delivery of the government into the hands of the conservatives in face of a large liberal majority in the last Chamber. Both sides are now determined to win at all hazards.

—We are much pleased to see that the indefatigable director of the Museu Nacional, Sr. Laeislau Netto, is gradually reassuming his old place in the columns of the daily press. Just now he is publishing the compliments offered him for his last number of the *Archivo*, the very last one of which comes from no less a scientific light than the papal nuncio himself. We are glad that Director Netto's well-known modesty did not lead him to withhold this interesting letter from publication, for it is a novelty to have scientific compliments from such a source.

—The imperial government has authorized the English Bank of Rio de Janeiro, Limited, to establish branches in the cities of São Paulo and Pelotas, the latter being the centre of the Rio Grande jerked beef trade. In the absence of a national banking system our two English banks are tending to fill one of the greatest of commercial necessities in this country—that of internal exchanges. With branches at all the principal ports and commercial centres, it will soon be possible to make remittances and exchanges through them to any part of the Empire.

—The minister of agriculture wants the presidents of the provinces to forward him statistics of exportation. When they come, they will be exceedingly interesting.

—Our custom house destroyed two kilogrammes weight of inulcent publications last year. The name is relative, of course, but much more than two kilogrammes of dirty publications are sold every month here by people who might know better.

—The German Minister, Mr. Le Maistre, was received by the Emperor to deliver his letters of recall. The date of the receipt is not clear, but we presume it was about the 11th. Mr. Le Maistre will proceed to Darmstadt, where he is appointed Prussian Minister.

—All of our daily colleagues are now publishing what may be called *Spirit of the Times*. That is, they condense what the other journals publish, which is certainly an advantage to the superficial reader to have all his *patulum* hoiled down for him. It hardly tends to create thinkers, however.

—The São Paulo *Diário Popular* of the 29th ult. contains a communication in which the writer says that he has seen a letter from Rio to the effect that grave divergences have arisen in the present cabinet between Minister Antonio Prado, on the one side, and Ministers Belisario and Ribeiro da Luz, on the other, and that the former will retire from office immediately after the elections.

—Thanking our colleague of the *Diário de Noticias* for the compliments contained in his issue of the 12th, we regret that we can not accept the paternity of our lunum which is so generously offered. Yankee wit is distinctly a New World product, and not the cross between "old English irony and Spanish wit"—as every one who reads *Punch* and has heard a raw Castilian joke must know. As for the names of American towns, let us confess that the *Diário* has the best of us. *You Bet* is hardly as pretty sounding as *Mother of God of Joga*, but geographical names know no law where poker-players are pioneers.

—The *Gazeta de Noticias* sums up, on the 11th, the results of the liberal missions as follows: "Of all the vast programme of 1869 only the electoral reform was realized, even this upon a purely conservative model, and it is already demanding a new reform. We have the same unfortunate police we had; the recruiting was abolished by the conservatives; the national guard abolished by the conservatives was re-organized by the liberals as an election influence; a conservative government was requisite to pass the monstrous Saravia project relative to slavery; centralization has increased; the Council of State still intrigues (*fazer politica*); the Senators are still elected for life; we do not possess civil marriage; we are indeed where we were seventeen years ago, when that famous programme was published that it is now attempted to make use of." Hard words these, but as true as gospel.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

La Gaceta San Americana y de España, Vol. I, No. 1. London: Bates, Henley & Co. This new monthly review is to be published in connection with the *South American Journal*, and is intended for circulation in Spanish America and Spain. It is similar in appearance to *Journal*, and will be conducted on pretty much the same plan. The *Gaceta* has our best wishes.

The Graduated English Reader, by James E. Hewitt. With a literary introduction by Alfred Alexander. Rio de Janeiro: Typ. Camões, 1885. The author is a well-known teacher in this city, and has prepared this text book for the use of Brazilian students of the English language. Mr. Alexander's introduction, which is in Portuguese, is designed to give the student a general idea of the language and its literature. The plan of the Reader itself is a somewhat comprehensive one, beginning with easy sentences such as are found in the primary readers, and then expanding into selections from the best authors in the language. The selections are arranged under general themes, which brings together all articles of a similar character. The book, we regret to add, is not as well printed as it should be.

Commercial Relations with Brazil as affected by Customs Regulations, from the New Orleans Press of October 20th, by Joseph Holt, M. D., president of the Louisiana Board of Health. Dr. Holt very properly attributes the loss of the once prosperous coffee trade of New Orleans to the ineffective quarantines maintained there, but we are not sure of his conclusions as to the part played by the "grasping corporations" who wish to keep the coffee trade in New York as a feeder for their latitudinal railway lines. There is a law of trade which he has clearly overlooked—that of the dominating influence of capital and enterprise. When New Orleans commands both of these in a parity with New York, then there will be a more natural distribution of the coffee trade.

<i>Alaguala</i>	Valiente	27 Nov.
<i>Alcazar</i>	Carrif	8 Dec.
<i>Adelaide</i>	Balmere	..
<i>Baider</i>	Lodi-n	4 Dec.
<i>Borba</i>	Carrif	9 Dec.
<i>Brostent</i>	Maselles	..
<i>Chattanooga</i>	Rosario	..
<i>Coring</i>	Rosario	..
<i>Campbell</i>	Carrif	..

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